

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 068327
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SNM-05 DEAE-00 CA-01 EB-08
/039 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/RPP:JFKEANE:STT

APPROVED BY S/NM:MFALCO

ARA/RPP:JAPARKER (DRAFT)

NEA/ARP:DWINN (DRAFT)

S/NM:RMGIBSON (DRAFT)

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

ARA, NEA, S/NM, DEA, CA, EB

-----023803 171515Z /47

R 162329Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 068327

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SNAR, CU, PN, CO, TC

SUBJECT: ARELLANO AND FALCO TESTIFY BEFORE HOUSE NARCOTICS
COMMITTEE REGARDING CUBAN LINK TO COLOMBIAN
TRAFFICKING AND WFC

1. ON MARCH 8 ARA DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY, RICHARD G.
ARELLANO, AND SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE SECRETARY FOR
NARCOTICS MATTERS, MATHEA FALCO, TESTIFIED IN EXECUTIVE
(CLOSED) SESSION BEFORE THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL. THE CHAIRMAN, LESTER L.
WOLFF (D-NY), READ FROM A DOCUMENT AND ASKED A SERIES OF
QUESTIONS, THE BURDEN OF WHICH WAS THAT FIDEL CASTRO, HIS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 068327

AGENTS, OFFICIALS OF THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT, ANTI-CASTRO
CUBANS IN MIAMI, THE WFC GROUP, INC. (FLORIDA BASED
FINANCIAL CORPORATION) AND ITS AFFILIATES, OFFICERS,
EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS IN THE UNITED STATES, PANAMA AND
AJMAN ARE ALL ALLEGED TO BE LINKED IN A NUMBER OF ILLICIT
ACTIVITIES, SOME OF WHICH MAY BE TIED TO NARCOTICS
TRAFFICKING FROM COLOMBIA TO THE U.S. CHAIRMAN WOLFF

ALSO ASKED WHAT THE DEPARTMENT KNOWS ABOUT THE ESCAPE OF WFC DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ CARTAYA FROM AJMAN, WFC LOANS TO COLOMBIA, FORGED LETTERS OF CREDIT ALLEGEDLY USED BY CARTAYA DRAWN ON PANAMANIAN BANK (UNIBANK) WHICH IS NOW IN RECEIVERSHIP, AND WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT INSTANCES OF ALLEGED PASSPORT FRAUD IN THIS CASE. THE COMMITTEE HAS INVITED OTHER BRANCHES, INCLUDING INVESTIGATIVE BRANCHES, OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO TESTIFY IN THE CASE.

2. CHAIRMAN WOLFF ASKED WHAT INFORMATION THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS BEARING ON THE CASE. SALIENT ASPECTS OF THE WITNESSES' REPLIES WERE: A) THE DEPARTMENT HAS NO INFORMATION LINKING CASTRO OR OTHER OFFICIAL CUBANS TO NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING OR THE WFC. B) THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT MONITOR THE FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, HENCE HAS NO INFORMATION ON TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN WFC AND ITS AFFILIATES IN PANAMA (UNIBANK) AND AJMAN. C) THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT NORMALLY MONITOR THE ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS OR OTHER NATIONALS TRAVELING OVERSEAS. HOWEVER, WE DO HAVE AN INTEREST IN INSTANCES OF PASSPORT FRAUD, WHICH IS ALLEGED IN THIS CASE. ARELLANO SAID HE WOULD BE GLAD TO CHECK ON WHAT OUR FILES CONTAIN REGARDING ALLEGED PASSPORT FRAUD IN THIS CASE AND PROVIDE WHATEVER INFORMATION THAT THE LAW PERMITTED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 068327

3. THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE SESSION WITH A REQUEST THAT A) THE DEPARTMENT RESPOND IN WRITING TO QUESTIONS SUMMARIZED ABOVE B) THE DEPARTMENT REVIEW A DOSSIER OF MATERIAL PROVIDED ON THE CASE AND PROVIDE THE COMMITTEE WHATEVER INFORMATION IT HAS THAT RELATES TO IT C) THE WITNESSES RETURN TO TESTIFY ONCE THEY ARE FULLY BRIEFED.

4. DEPARTMENT IS REVIEWING DOSSIER AND TRANSCRIPT OF SESSION TO DETERMINE WHERE AND WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN ORDER TO RESPOND TO COMMITTEE REQUESTS OF PARA 3 ABOVE. WILL ADVISE POSTS AS DEVELOPMENTS OCCUR. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE068327
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JFKEANE:STT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780119-0499
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780358/aaaabwzh.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 22d1a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3300107
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARELLANO AND FALCO TESTIFY BEFORE HOUSE NARCOTICS COMMITTEE REGARDING CUBAN LINK TO COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKING AND WFC
TAGS: SNAR, PGOV, CU, PN, CO, TC, (ARELLANO, RICHARD G), (FALCO MATHEA A)
To: HAVANA PANAMA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/22d1a1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014